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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

ACKLEY, JR. et al.

Atty. Ref.: 4389-3

Serial No. Continuation of U.S. Serial  
No. 09/479,549

Group: Unassigned

Filed: October 30, 2003

Examiner: Unassigned

For: METHOD TO PRINT MULTICOLOR IMAGES ON EDIBLE PIECES

\* \* \* \* \*

October 30, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 is information that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. At least one of the boxes below applies to the present application:

1) ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.

a) ☐ Contingent Request to Treat Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

In the event a first Office Action has been mailed prior to filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement and the Office Action was mailed more than three months since the filing of the

application (for regular applications not including CPAs or RCEs), the Office is requested to treat the present paper as a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The present paper is submitted in duplicate for this purpose.

b) ☐ Contingent Request to Treat Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

In the event a first Office Action has been mailed prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement, and the Office Action was mailed more than three months since the filing of the application (for regular applications not including CPAs or RCEs), the Office is requested to treat the present paper as a submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) in that the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

2) ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

- a. ☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). In the event a Notice of Allowance or a Final Rejection has been mailed

prior to filing this Information Disclosure Statement, the Office is authorized to treat this as a submission under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) and charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The present paper is submitted in duplicate for this purpose.

- b. ☐ I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- c. ☐ Attached is our check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

3) ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

- a. ☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

b. ☐ I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

4) ☐ Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.

5) ☐ The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report or official action is attached for the Examiner's information. See MPEP § 609.

6) ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

7) ☒ Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. 09/479,549, filed January 7, 2000, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

8) ☐ The publication date of at least one of the listed documents does not provide a month of publication. However, the year of publication of each listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Each publication date is listed on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, each listed publication date should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

ACKLEY, JR. et al.  
Continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/479,549  
October 30, 2003


It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 14-1140 referencing docket number 4389-3.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Atty. Dock # No.

**4389-3**

Serial No.

**Continuation of U.S. Serial  
No. 09/479,549**

Applicant

**ACKLEY, JR. et al.**

Filing Date

**October 30, 2003**

Group

**Unassigned**
**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1,134,822	03/1920	VARBLE			
	3,052,552	09/1962	KOERNER et al.			
	3,335,658	08/1967	USCHMANN			
	3,735,699	05/1973	KOELSCHBACH			
	4,519,310	05/1985	SHIMIZU et al.			
	4,578,273	03/1986	KRUBERT			
	4,670,271	06/1987	PASTERNAK			
	4,672,892	06/1987	ACKLEY			
	4,843,958	07/1989	EGOSI			
	5,423,252	06/1995	YAMAMOTO et al.			
	5,433,146	07/1995	ACKLEY			
	5,505,775	04/1996	KITOS			
	5,534,281	07/1996	PAPPAS et al.			
	5,630,499	05/1997	LOUDEN et al.			
	5,655,453	08/1997	ACKLEY			
	5,768,996	06/1998	ACKLEY			
	5,834,047	11/1998	AHN			
	5,836,243	11/1998	ACKLEY			
	5,878,658	03/1999	ACKLEY			
	6,314,876	11/2001	ACKLEY			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
WO 97/16075	05/1997	PCT				
0442782A1	08/1991	EUROPE				
0596328A2	05/1994	EUROPE				
0919377A1	06/1999	EUROPE				
DE3836142A1	06/1999	GERMANY				
WO 91/01884	02/1991	PCT				
WO 00/74938	12/2000	PCT				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)**


*Examiner		Date Considered	
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.